

This proposal could potentially be the end of computerdevelopment in the U.S. By mandating that all equipment which could be used for TV reception incorporate so-called "digital rights management" technology, this proposal will penalize those who do research and development outside of massive multi-million-dollar companies by basically making such research illegal and impossible. In other words, allowing the content industry to write a DRM protocol and make its use mandatory will have the effect of sending almost all computer R&D overseas, while at the same time denying the consumer the ability to control his own equipment.